

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 682

By Springer

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Genifer and Dwight Strickland for their heroism.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly honor those individuals willing to act decisively to help those in need in times of crisis to avert injury or death, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to have so many valiant men and women who have performed unselfishly to help others; and

WHEREAS, on December 5, 1998, a vehicle occupied by Tom and Jean Parrish and grandsons Jonathan Parris, 8, and Joshua Parrish, 5, was broadsided by another vehicle in Maury County; and

WHEREAS, young Joshua had fallen asleep with his head leaning against the driver's side passenger door, which was the point of impact. The accident caused severe head trauma to Joshua, causing him to lose consciousness; and

WHEREAS, as the Parrishes struggled to free the unconscious Joshua from his seatbelt, the vehicle began to fill with smoke; and

WHEREAS, Genifer and Dwight Strickland, the two Strickland sons, and Dwight's mother, Nadine Strickland, stopped to offer assistance, having witnessed the collision. Genifer

saw young Joshua's seatbelt severely cutting into him, causing him to turn blue and have difficulty breathing, and quickly ran to the Strickland van for scissors to cut the belt; and

WHEREAS, while her husband Dwight used his cell phone to call 911 and the parents of Jonathan and Joshua, Genifer freed Joshua with the help of another motorist; and

WHEREAS, as Joshua emerged from a seizure and regained consciousness, Genifer continued to monitor his condition and helped to calm and comfort his brother, Jonathan; and

WHEREAS, Tony and Lisa Parrish, the parents of Joshua and Jonathan, were advised by paramedics that Genifer's quick actions probably saved Joshua's life; and

WHEREAS, Nadine Strickland, whose husband was a patient at Maury County Regional Hospital, checked daily on the progress of young Joshua, who was taken there for treatment after the accident; and

WHEREAS, Genifer and Dwight Strickland acted promptly and selflessly to extend desperately needed help during a time of crisis; and

WHEREAS, such heroic behavior and great presence of mind can only be categorized as outstanding; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend Genifer and Dwight Strickland of Lawrenceburg for their timely assistance and life-saving actions on behalf of Joshua Parrish.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.